

Press Room



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California Puts the Breaks on Impaired Driving

Holiday Sobriety Checkpoints Planned as California Seeks to Reverse Upswing in DUI

Sacramento, Calif.—This month more than 310 law enforcement agencies across California are gearing up for a series of sobriety checkpoints and DUI patrols planned during the holiday season. These stepped-up efforts are part of California's 2003 Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention month and come in response to four consecutive years of increases in alcohol-related collisions.

Last year in California 1,416 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes, up from 1,308 fatalities in 2001, an increase of more than 8 percent.

The California Highway Patrol and law enforcement agencies throughout the state want motorists to be on notice that they will be out in force all month long, looking for drivers under the influence of drugs or alcohol. Motorists are urged to designate a sober driver and be sure to wear a seat belt every time they take a ride.

Note: Please consider posting the enclosed non-alcoholic drink recipes on your station's Web site during California's Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month.

*Statistics based on California Highway Patrol provisional data for 2002.